

Testimony of

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Regional 4 Educator

Before the

Education Committee

March 15, 2023

Good afternoon, Senator McCrory, Representative Currey, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, and members of the Education Committee.

I testify today in support of House Bill 6884. This bill takes important steps toward addressing the educator shortage in Connecticut, showing educators that theirs is a respected profession, and ensuring that our classrooms and schools can provide the best possible education for our students.

As a kindergarten teacher, it is imperative that we raise the age to 5 by September 1st. We are starting students at a disadvantage by allowing them to come at 4 years old. Additionally, teachers worked tirelessly and bravely through the uncertainty of COVID whilst providing stability for our learners. It is BEYOND time that we recognize those efforts by following through on the pension credits.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

